

- 10 -

Claims

1. Use of a compound which is capable of inhibiting activation of a growth-factor receptor of the EGFR family for the manufacture of an agent for the prevention or treatment of processes selected from cell proliferation, cell migration, invasivity and anti-apoptosis in a disorder, which is associated with increased G-protein mediated signal transduction.
2. The use of claim 1 wherein the growth-factor receptor is EGFR.
3. The use of claim 1 or 2 wherein the compound acts on a growth-factor receptor ligand precursor.
4. The use of claim 3 wherein the growth-factor receptor ligand precursor is EGF or an EGF-like ligand.
5. The use of claim 1 or 2 wherein the compound acts on a metalloprotease.
6. The use of claim 5 wherein the compound directly inhibits the protease activity.
7. The use of claim 1 or 2 wherein the compound acts on the growth-factor receptor.
8. The use of any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the agent is a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent and/or adjuvant.
9. The use of any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the disorder is cancer.

- 11 -

10. The use of any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the cancer is a human cancer.
- 5 11. A method for identifying and/or characterizing an inhibitor of processes selected from cell proliferation, cell migration, invasivity and anti-apoptosis in a disorder associated with increased G-protein mediated signal transduction, comprising:
determining the effect of a test compound on the transactivation of
10 a growth-factor receptor of the EGFR family.
12. The method of disclaim 11, wherein the test compound is selected from low-molecular weight compounds, peptides and proteins, particularly antibodies or antibody fragments.
- 15